IN THE SPECIFICATION

The paragraph beginning on page 10, line 16 has been amended as follows:

The therapeutic substance can be for inhibiting the activity of vascular smooth muscle cells. More specifically, the active agent can be aimed at inhibiting abnormal or inappropriate migration and/or proliferation of smooth muscle cells for the inhibition of restenosis. The active agent can also include any substance capable of exerting a therapeutic or prophylactic effect in the practice of the present invention. For example, the therapeutic substance can be for enhancing wound healing in a vascular site or improving the structural and elastic properties of the vascular site. Examples of substances include antiproliferative substances such as actinomycin D, or derivatives and analogs thereof (manufactured by Sigma-Aldrich 1001 West Saint Paul Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53233; or COSMEGEN available from Merck). Synonyms of actinomycin D include dactinomycin, actinomycin IV, actinomycin I_1, actinomycin X_1, and actinomycin C_1. The active agent can also fall under the genus of antineoplastic, anti-inflammatory, antiplatelet, anticoagulant, antifibrin, antithrombin, antimitotic, antibiotic, antiallergic and antioxidant substances. Examples of such antineoplastics and/or antimitotics include paclitaxel (e.g., TAXOL® by Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., Stamford, Conn.), docetaxel (e.g., Taxotere®, from Aventis S.A., Frankfurt, Germany), methotrexate, azathioprine, vincristine, vinblastine, fluorouracil, doxorubicin hydrochloride (e.g., Adriamycin® from Pharmacia & Upjohn, Peapack N.J.), and mitomycin (e.g., Mutamycin® from Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., Stamford, Conn.). Examples of such antiplatelets, anticoagulants, antifibrin, and antithrombins include sodium heparin, low molecular weight heparins, heparinoids, hirudin, argatroban, forskolin, vapiprost, prostacyclin and prostacyclin analogues, dextran, D-phe-pro-

arg-chloromethylketone (synthetic antithrombin), dipyridamole, glycoprotein IIb/IIIa platelet membrane receptor antagonist antibody, recombinant hirudin, and thrombin inhibitors such as Angiomax ä (Biogen, Inc., Cambridge, Mass.). Examples of such cytostatic or antiproliferative agents include angiopeptin, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors such as captopril (e.g., Capoten® and Capozide® from Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., Stamford, Conn.), cilazapril or lisinopril (e.g., Prinivil® and Prinzide® from Merck & Co., Inc., Whitehouse Station, NJ)[[;]], calcium channel blockers (such as nifedipine), colchicine, fibroblast growth factor (FGF) antagonists, fish oil (omega 3-fatty acid), histamine antagonists, lovastatin (an inhibitor of HMG-CoA reductase, a cholesterol lowering drug, brand name Mevacor® from Merck & Co., Inc., Whitehouse Station, NJ), monoclonal antibodies (such as those specific for Platelet-Derived Growth Factor (PDGF) receptors), nitroprusside, phosphodiesterase inhibitors, prostaglandin inhibitors, suramin, serotonin blockers, steroids, thioprotease inhibitors, triazolopyrimidine (a PDGF antagonist), and nitric oxide. An example of an antiallergic agent is permirolast potassium. Other therapeutic substances or agents which may be appropriate include alpha-interferon, genetically engineered epithelial cells, rapamycin and dexamethasone. The foregoing substances are listed by way of example and are not meant to be limiting. Other therapeutic substances which are currently available or that may be developed in the future are equally applicable.

The paragraph beginning on page 16, line 6 has been amended as follows:

Stents are cleaned with isopropyl alcohol in combination with ultrasonication. Au particles are mixed with a macromer solution and become suspended at a concentration of 30% w/w. A 95:5 molar ratio of dimethyl aminoethylmethacrylate (DMAEMA) and acrylic acid

~~(Aac)~~(AAc) has an LCST of about 40°C. The macromer solution contains 10% DMAEMA, 0.5% AAc, 2.5% EGDMA, 0.5% benzolyl peroxide, 5% PVP, 5% ReoPro®, 5% R-7 conjugated heparin, and 71.5% H_2O. The Au suspension solution is applied as a coating to the surface of the stents with a wet weight of 1000 μg. The coating is heated at 65°C for 4 minutes to induce a cross-linking reaction. Following the cross-linking reaction, the coating is dried in a vacuum oven at 40°C for 12 hr. Then the macromer solution (without Au particles) is applied to the surface of the stents by dip-coating with a wet weight of 800 μg. The coating is heated at 65°C for 4 minutes to induce a cross-linking reaction. Following the cross-linking reaction, the coating is dried in a vacuum oven at 40°C for 12 hr. The coating is activated by directing a 900-1200 nm wavelength light in the infrared region of the electromagnetic spectrum to the coating.